

HUNTINGDON
BOROUGH COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
of HEALTH

AND THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR
DURING YEAR 1951



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ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951

by

M. M. MARKHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.,
Medical Officer of Health

Mr. Mayor, Lady, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present my first Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Borough for the year ending 31st December, 1951, during which time the late Dr. C. E. Hicks was Medical Officer of Health.

Your obedient servant,

M. M. MARKHAM.

Staff

Medical Officer of Health :

M. M. MARKHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Sanitary Inspector :

E. J. SAUNDERS, M.I.Mun.E., A.R.San.I.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area	...	...	...	...	...	2,151 acres
Number of inhabited houses at the end of						
1951	...	...	...	...	...	1,511
Rateable Value of the District	...	...	...	...	...	£34,999
Value of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£140
Estimated Population (Mid 1950)	...	...	...	...	...	5,204
Estimated Population (Mid 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	5,220

Vital Statistics

LIVE BIRTHS	M.	F.	Total		
Legitimate	46	34	80	Birth rate per 1,000	
Illegitimate	3	3	6	estimated population	16.5
				(Ditto for England	
Total	49	37	86	and Wales) ...	16.7

STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	1	—	1
Total	3	1	4

Rate per 1,000 estimated population ... 0.77
 (Ditto for England and Wales) ... 0.36

DEATHS (all ages) 33 37 70

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population 13.5
 (Ditto for England and Wales) ... 12.5

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR

Legitimate	...	...	...
Illegitimate	...	...	...

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	2	1	3

DEATH RATES OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	34.9
(Ditto for England and Wales)	...	...	29.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			37.5
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			—

Causes of Death

(Registrar-General's List)

List No.	Cause	Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	1	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other ...	—	—
3.	Syphilitic ...	—	—
4.	Diphtheria ...	—	—
5.	Whooping cough ...	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections ...	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—
8.	Measles ...	1	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	—	1
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	—	1
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	1
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	—
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	2
15.	Leukæmia, aleukæmia ...	—	—
16.	Diabetes ...	—	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	7	6
18.	Coronary disease, angina ...	3	3
19.	Hypertension with heart disease ...	2	1

20.	Other heart disease	4	6
21.	Other circulatory disease	—	1
22.	Influenza	—	1
23.	Pneumonia	—	2
24.	Bronchitis	—	2
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system ...	—	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	2
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	1	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	4	6
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	—	—
34.	All other accidents	—	1
35.	Suicide	1	—
36.	Homicide and operations of war	—	—
Total all causes ...		33	37

General Provision of Health Services for the Area

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The following laboratory facilities have been available to this Authority and to General Practitioners in the Area :—

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road,
Cambridge. Tel. Cambridge 55526.

Public Analyst (S. Greenburgh, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.R.I.C.)
Tenison Road, Cambridge. Tel. Cambridge 2097.

(b) AMBULANCE SERVICES.

(i) Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service run in conjunction with the County Fire Service have been available on doctor's orders.
(Tel. Huntingdon 67).

(ii) An ambulance stationed at Huntingdon Isolation Hospital has been available for cases of infectious disease.
(Tel. Huntingdon 59).

(c) HOME NURSING.

A Nurse/Midwife residing in Godmanchester (Tel. Huntingdon 609) employed and supervised by the Huntingdon County Council carried out Home Nursing and attended maternity cases in the Borough.

(d) CLINICS—*See over*

(i) The following health services are provided by the Huntingdon County Council.

Clinics.	Patients Seen.	When Held	Where Held
MINOR AILMENTS.	Schoolchildren.	Every Mon. 9-30 to 10-30 a.m.	Old Grammar School, Huntingdon.
INFANT WELFARE	Children (0-5 years)	Every Tues. 2-4 p.m.	
DENTAL	Pre-School and Schoolchildren Pre-natal and Nursing Mothers	Every Wed. (except 2nd in month) & every Sat. 10 a.m. - 12 noon (by appointment)	10, Princes Street, Huntingdon

(ii) The following Health Services are now the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board are administered on an agency basis by the Huntingdon County Council :

OPHTHALMIC	Pre-School and Schoolchildren	1st & 3rd Fridays in the mth. (By appointment except in emergency) 10-30 a.m. to 12 noon 2 to 4 p.m.	Old Grammar School Huntingdon
ORTHOPAEDIC	Pre-School and Schoolchildren	2nd & 4th Tuesdays in month (<i>Surgeons by appointment</i>) 10 a.m. to 12 noon.	do.

(iii) The following Health Services are provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

CHEST

All ages	Every Thursday 10 a.m. to 12 noon	County Hospital, Huntingdon.
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VENEREAL DISEASES All cases.

	Mondays 3 to 7 p.m. Wed. 4 to 6 p.m.	} Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge
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MALES : Mondays 5.30 p.m.

Thursdays 5.30 p.m.

FEMALES: Wednesdays 5.30 p.m.

Fridays 10.30 a.m.

28, Fitzwilliam St.,
Peterborough.

Medical, Surgical, Orthopædic, Pædiatric, Skin, Obstetrical, Gynæcological and Dental Out-Patient Clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

(e) HOSPITAL SERVICES.

Fever. Huntingdon Isolation Hospital provides facilities for the investigation and treatment of infectious diseases.

General Hospital Services are provided by the County Hospital, Huntingdon, and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Maternity Cases can be admitted to Paxton Park Maternity Home, St. Neots. Admissions are arranged through the County Medical Officer.

CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

					Total Cases Notified
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	16
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	19
Acute Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	11
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	—
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	—
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

From figures available at 31st December, 1951, it was shown that 72.05 per cent. of the child population (0—14 years) have received a primary course of immunisation to protect them from diphtheria. 58.37 per cent. of the babies (0—4 years) were so protected. It is essential that mothers be encouraged to protect their babies before they reach school age.

Facilities for diphtheria immunisation are available at Infant Welfare Clinics, through the School Medical Service, and from General Practitioners.

Tuberculosis

Total No. on Register at 31st December, 1951 ... 31

Pulmonary ... 25 Non-Pulmonary ... 6

Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...								
1 ...								
5 ...			1					
10 ...	1							
15 ...								
20 ...								
25 ...		1			1			
35 ..	1							
45 ...								
55 ...	3	1						
65 and upwards	1							
Total	6	2	1	...	1	...	...	...

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

Public Mortuary

A Mortuary is provided in Priory Road, fully equipped.

Water Supply

The water supply was adequate throughout the year.

Rainfall for the year 1951 was 27.23 inches, which is the second highest recorded total for a year. Rainfall for 1950 was 25.92 inches.

The Council have emphasised the urgency of the augmentation of the town's water supply in accordance with the scheme prepared by the Council's consulting engineers.

Samples of water are sent regularly to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Cambridge.

The town water is treated by chlorination, and the analyses proved satisfactory throughout the year.

In the extreme northern part of the town, where there is no piped supply, 8 houses situated in Sapley are supplied with water by mobile tanks.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The Council have again pressed their claims for final approval of the joint scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal for the Boroughs of Huntingdon and Godmanchester. The Ministry of Health Inquiry relating to this Scheme was held in July, 1949.

Collection and Disposal of House Refuse

Collections of House Refuse are made once per week from dwelling houses, and at least twice per week from trade premises.

The refuse is destroyed by means of an Incinerator situated well away from the town, and partly by controlled tipping to fill up land on the Hartford Road Fields, which are to be used for recreational purposes in the future.

Inspection

During the year I have made several inspections of the District, accompanied by your Sanitary Inspector.

Nuisance Inspection is embodied in the Sanitary Officer's Report, vide page 10.

Housing

The Council's housing scheme in American Lane was continued and up to the end of the year 39 houses had been completed.

The Council now owns 315 houses, which is 20.8% of the estimated total of houses in the Borough. This number includes the two Toll Bar cottages, Nos. 51 and 53, Hartford Road.

No houses were built by private owners.

Inspections of dwelling houses have been made and notices served for those houses which were found to require attention.

1. *Inspections of Dwelling-houses during the year.*

- | | | | |
|-----|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | (a) | Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health Act, 1936) | 21 |
| | (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose ... | 43 |
| (2) | (a) | Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | Nil |
| | (b) | Number of dwelling-houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 18 |

Lodging Houses

There are no registered Lodging Houses in the Borough.

Shops Act, 1934

During the year inspections have been made of shops occupied in the Borough, and conditions were found to be of a satisfactory nature.

Factories

The undermentioned factories are operating in the Borough : Chivers & Sons, Canning; Ampion, Ltd., Wireless; Acoustical Manufacturing Co., Loud Speaker Equipment; Oriental Confectionery Co.; P. & H. Engineering Co.; Silent Channel Co.; East Anglian Breweries Ltd.; Fen Potteries.

Schools

The schools are kept clean and are well ventilated, and were not closed during the year for epidemic disease. They are adequately provided with water and sanitary services.

Bye-Laws and Regulations

The Council have Bye-Laws relating to new streets and buildings, and regulations relating to house drainage and water supply.

M. M. MARKHAM,

*Medical Officer of Health,
Huntingdon Borough Council.*

HUNTINGDON.

October, 1952.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1951

Total No. Inspections made during 1951				...	...	152
,, ,, Notices Served (Informal)				...	...	48
Complaints received	...	...	...	Total number of	...	42
Premises, Houses, etc. (under Sec. 92 P.H. Act, 1936)				No. inspected	...	34
				Nuisances abated	...	28
Animals improperly kept				No. inspected	...	—
				Nuisances abated	...	—
Drain, urinal, cesspool				No. inspected	...	14
				Nuisances abated	...	14
Smoke nuisances				No. of observations	...	12
				Nuisances abated	...	1
Offensive accumulations				No. of inspections	...	—
				Nuisances abated	...	—
Other Sanitary conditions				No. inspected	...	—
				Nuisances abated	...	—
Slaughter houses and Shops				No. licensed or registered	...	3
				No. of inspections	...	6
Offensive trades (Section 112 Public Health Act, 1875)				No. established...	...	—
				No. of inspections	...	—
Infectious Diseases				Houses affected with Tuberculosis—		
				Houses inspected	...	—
				No. of inspections	...	—
				Houses disinfected	...	—
				Schools disinfected	...	—
				Disinfectant used	...	
				Prince Regent		
Water Closets				Lots of clothing disinfected	...	—
				,, ,, destroyed	...	—
Water Closets				New provided	...	78
				No. supplied with water	...	78
Water Supply				Samples taken for Analysis		105
				Samples condemned	...	—
				Wells closed	...	—
				Wells cleansed, repaired, etc	—	—
				Public supply substituted for well or pond	...	—
				Cisterns cleansed, repaired covered	—	—
Building Bye-Laws adopted	...	...	...	...	...	—
Total legal proceedings, i.e. Summonses, etc.				...	...	—
				Convictions	...	—
FACTORIES ACT, 1937.						
Factories				Total number on register including bakehouses		86
				No. in which nuisance abated		1
Bakehouses				No. on register...	...	3
				No. of outworkers	...	—
				No. of houses	...	—
				No. of infected houses	...	—
Legal Proceedings, i.e., Summonses, etc.				...	...	—
				Convictions	...	—

(a) **MILK SUPPLY.**—This is controlled by the Milk Marketing Board. Dairies and Cowsheds are regularly inspected, and any defects corrected where required by the owners under the 1926 Order. There are 10 Cowkeepers registered in the Borough.

(b) **MEAT.**—Meat is under the control of the Meat Marketing Board. All cattle have been slaughtered at St. Ives under this Scheme. The three slaughter houses in the Borough are used occasionally only for killing pigs.

(c) **ADULTERATION OF FOOD.**—Food Inspection and Sampling is carried out by County Weights and Food and Veterinary Inspectors.

(d) **CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.**—This is dealt with by the County Weights and Food and Veterinary Inspectors.

Notices were prepared requesting persons not to take dogs into premises in which food is sold and were distributed to shopkeepers.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders

Cowkeepers Registered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Producers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Producer Retailers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Retailers (only)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
No. of Inspections of Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
No. of Inspections during milking time	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
No. of Premises requiring Whitewashing, Cleansing, etc.	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
No. in which requirements of Sanitary Authority were carried out	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
No. of Premises requiring Structural or Sanitary Improvements	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Have regulations been adopted	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Yes

Cowsheds with Well Water Supply—

No. of	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
No. of from which water analysed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

Dairymen, Cowkeepers and Purveyors of Milk
Butter and Cheese Makers—

No. in District	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
No. Inspections of Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

E. J. SAUNDERS,

Sanitary Inspector.

M. M. MARKHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

